



Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero and members of the Transportation Committee:

Connecticut Driving School Professionals (CDSP) is a professional organization committed to the dignity, growth, development and improvement of the driver education and traffic safety profession. One of our objectives is to enhance traffic safety through legislation, education and training. With this in mind we would like to provide comment on the following bills:

Proposed Bill No. 104 – An act allowing newly licensed motor vehicle operators to transport immediate family members to and from school.

Position: CDSP is opposed to this proposed bill. A great deal of thought has been put into limiting passengers during the first six months they have their license and we feel strongly that this limitation has saved lives. Limiting distractions as newly licensed teens gain experience is critical to keeping them safe. Transporting siblings to and from school may be a convenience to the family however it will put teens at risk.

Proposed bill No. 640 – An act concerning the safe driving practices course for new drivers over the age of eighteen.

Position: CDSP opposes this bill. Training is critical to producing safe drivers. This 8-hour course covers the dangers of drugs and alcohol, texting and cell phone use while driving and other critical traffic safety information. The cost of this program is minimal. CDSP would also like to point out that the cost of driver's education is a very small part of the expense related to operating a motor vehicle. Vehicle purchase price, insurance, gas, vehicle repairs, property tax– these costs, many of them ongoing expenses, greatly exceed the cost of driver's education.

Member Schools

AAA Allied Group Driving School (West Hartford)	AAA Southern New England (Hamden)
Airway Driving School (Shelton)	All Star Driver (Watertown)
Big A Driving School (Middletown)	CC Driver Education (Tolland)
Fresh Green Light (Cos Cob)	Frank's Driving School (New Britain/Rocky Hill)
Global Driving School (Windsor)	High Ridge Driving School (Stamford)
Lewis School of Driving (New Canaan)	Santos Driving School (Hartford)